



Imelda Kleuterschool enjoy the traditions of Dera Gai

Sunday, June 24 is the regional celebration of San Juan Dera Gai, a traditional native holiday relating to the end of the harvest and the clearing of the fields. Bonfires will light the night sky, and typical music will be heard, and Aruba's Instituto di Cultura has made it a practice for the last five years to visit the island's Kindergarten and Primary schools with an education show that helps to keep this tradition alive.

The school visits began on June 11, continuing through the 22nd. On Thursday, June 21, the team headed by Stanley Dabian of the Instituto di Cultura visited the Imelda Kleuterschool on De Lasallestraat in Oranjestad. The children enjoyed a program which explained the traditions behind the festival, with music by local group Cakiña, headed by local personality Vale Croes.

Stanley and Sharline Bremo, in the traditional dress of Dera Gai, the red and yellow of fire, performed the "Rooster Dance," an indispensable element of the occasion. The schoolchildren are incorporated into the program, making it a fun and exciting morning for them, and there is a small competition to see which children can do the best "Rooster Dance."

It was an exciting morning for the students of Imelda Kleuterschool!